DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 476 815 PS 031 306

AUTHOR	Helm, Judy Harris, Ed.; Beneke, Sallee, Ed.
TITLE	The Power of Projects: Meeting Contemporary Challenges in Early Childhood Classrooms-Strategies and Solutions.
INSTITUTION	National Association for the Education of Young Children, Washington, DC.; Columbia Univ., New York, NY. Teachers College.
ISBN	ISBN-0-8077-4298-8
PUB DATE	2003-00-00
NOTE	127p.
AVAILABLE FROM	NAEYC, Educational Resources and Products, P.O. Box 932569, Atlanta, GA 31193-2569 ($16, Member Price; $19, Non-Member Price, Stock No. 211). Tel: 866-623-9248 (Toll Free); Tel: 202-232-8777, ext: 2001; Fax: 770-442-9742; Web site: http://www.naeyc.org.
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Guides - Non-Classroom (055) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available From EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Academic Standards; Change Strategies; Curriculum Development; Developmentally Appropriate Practices; Disadvantaged; Documentation; Early Childhood Education; Emergent Literacy; Reflective Teaching ; Second Language Learning; Special Needs Students; Student Needs; *Student Projects; *Teaching Methods
IDENTIFIERS	Best Practices; *Project Approach (Katz and Chard)

ABSTRACT

The project approach to teaching allows children to explore a topic in depth and document his or her learning. This guide for teachers shows how good project work can address challenges faced by early childhood teachers, such as overcoming ill effects of poverty, or responding to children with special needs. The book provides guidelines for curriculum to meet these challenges and shows how project work provides a structure for classrooms focused on children's learning, and shares documentation of highly effective projects. The book begins with two articles providing a rationale for project work: "Contemporary Challenges in Early Childhood Education" (Judy Harris Helm), and "Building a Good Foundation for Children" (Lilian G. Katz). The next five sections present articles documenting how project work addresses the specific challenges outlined earlier: (1) overcoming the ill effects of poverty; (2) moving children toward literacy; (3) responding to children's special needs; (4) supporting second-language learners; and (5) meeting standards effectively. Two concluding articles by Judy Harris Helm address the importance of documentation in project work and future challenges. Appended are answers to frequently asked questions and some practical advice on implementing project work, and a list of recommended resources. (HTH)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

THIS
DOCUMENT
NOT
AVAILABLE
FROM

EDRS